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January 26, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft US Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have been an avid user of Microsoft and am happy to see the government finally reach a settlement in their antirust case against Microsoft. I feel that the settlement is fair and I just wish the whole issue were already resolved.

While I have been pretty neutral throughout the whole case, I have anxiously been awaiting an outcome. Microsoft was not wholly innocent, but that was three years ago and the concessions they make in the settlement more than cover for what was asked of them. By giving over their source code to the competition, while at the same time designing Windows to work better with outside programs, Microsoft will be helping to increase the diversity of choices for people to use in what have been predominantly Microsoft dominated areas.

In short, I would like to thank you for taking the time to read opinions like mine on this case. I feel that it is important to know how a decision of this magnitude will affect the public before finalizing it.

Thank you for allowing us to serve you! Tom Gerhart

Kathy Gerhart